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State of Montana
Office of the Governor



Executive Order No. 19-04

EXECUTIVE ORDER ENDORSING THE APCO PROJECT 25 (P25)
PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO STANDARD FOR THE STATE OF MONTANA

WHEREAS, the safety of the public safety responders of Montana is of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, public safety communications provides a critical role protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Montana; and

WHEREAS, the State's public safety communications infrastructure is becoming outdated; and

WHEREAS, Federal agencies have adopted the APCO Project 25 standard which effects the ability of public safety communications systems to interoperate with one another, due to new technology and shifts in standards; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of public safety communications between jurisdictions to cooperate and coordinate voice and data information is critical to the mission of public safety; and

1 WHEREAS, the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council
2 (SIEC) was created to provide policy level direction for matters
3 related to planning, designing and implementing guidelines, best
4 practices, and standard approaches to solve Montana's public
5 safety communications interoperability problems and to leverage
6 any opportunity in support of a statewide system, including
7 seeking federal funding, or other funding, for statewide
8 interoperability; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the Project 25 Phase I (ANSI/TIA/EIA 102 series)
11 standards are a direct result of a seven-year cooperative effort
12 of a committee comprised of the Telecommunications Industry
13 Association (TIA), the Association of Public Safety
14 Communications Officials International, Inc. (APCO), the
15 Telecommunications and Technology Professionals Serving State
16 Government (NASTD), (formerly the National Association of State
17 Telecommunication Officials), and numerous Federal agencies
18 including the National Communications System (NCS), the
19 Department of Treasury, the Department of Justice, the National
20 Security Agency (NSA) and the National Telecommunication and
21 Information Administration (NTIA); and
22

23 WHEREAS, every aspect of Project 25 is designed to benefit
24 public safety professionals who seek a new level of performance,
25 efficiency, capabilities, and quality in two-way radio
26 communications; and
27

1 WHEREAS, four key objectives guided the steering committee
2 through this open process:

- 3
- 4 1. Provide enhanced functionality with equipment and
 - 5 capabilities focused on public safety needs;
 - 6 2. Improve spectrum efficiency;
 - 7 3. Ensure competition among multiple vendors through
 - 8 Open Systems Architecture; and
 - 9 4. Allow effective, efficient, and reliable intra-
 - 10 agency and inter-agency communications; and
- 11

12 WHEREAS, the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council
13 has adopted by formal action the APCO Project 25 standard to
14 promote and enhance statewide interoperability; and

15

16 WHEREAS, the Project 25 standard enables compliant radios
17 to communicate in either digital mode with other P25 compliant
18 radios or analog mode with existing analog radios; and

19

20 WHEREAS, Project 25 systems can be maintained and upgraded
21 cost effectively over the system's life cycle, thereby meeting
22 user requirements, achieving interoperability, prompting
23 committed manufacturers to provide compliant products, fostering
24 competition, and achieving cost-effective solutions.

25

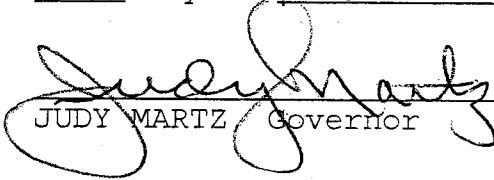
26 NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUDY MARTZ, Governor of the State of

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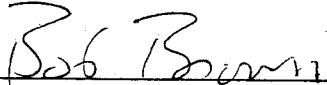
1 Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the laws and
2 Constitution of the State of Montana, do hereby require any
3 State agency requiring digital voice communications to comply
4 with the APCO P25 standards. State agencies are further
5 directed to develop a migration plan for P25 public safety radio
6 communications.

7
8 This Order is effective immediately.
9

10
11 GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT
12 SEAL of the State of Montana, this
13 29th day of November, 2004.

14 
JUDY MARTZ Governor

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16 ATTEST:

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18 BOB BROWN, Secretary of State
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